

# Los Alamos

Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

DATE: April 11, 1994  
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Ms. Barbara Driscoll  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue  
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Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Dear Ms. Driscoll:

This letter is to inform you of the upcoming sampling event that affects the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Facility Investigation work being performed in Operable Unit (OU) 1111 at Los Alamos National Laboratory. Following is a detailed list of the work that will be performed this summer.

Aggregate 1 [No Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) number assigned]  
Surface soil sampling in areas where defective explosive lenses were destroyed by detonation, south and east of Material Disposal Area (MDA) F. Ten samples with analysis for explosives and metals will be taken.

Aggregate 2 [SWMU 22-015(c)]  
Surface to 3-ft depth soil sampling of outflow channels from Building 22-52. Rinsate from a plating operation (1953-ca 1962) and waste solutions from a printed circuit etching operation (1974-1984) were discharged from Building 22-52, ponded near the rim of Pajarito Canyon, and flowed down the side of the canyon in multiple channels. Eighty samples, some of which will be composited for a total of 50 with analysis for metals, volatiles and semivolatiles will be taken.

Aggregate 3  
Drilling and surface soil sampling around explosives settling basins [22-014(a, b), 22-015(b, e), and 40-005], a concrete wash pad (22-012), an explosives drain and seepage pit system [22-015(d)], and a dry well system [22-015(a)]. The wash pad is adjacent to one of the explosives settling basins, so that sampling can be done most expeditiously for both SWMUs as a single unit. Drilling is being done to determine whether leakage from any of these structures has resulted in soil contamination. The inactive settling basins [22-015(b, e)] are candidates for removal as voluntary corrective actions (VCAs). This sampling will show whether mixed waste is present in or around the inactive settling basins. Sixty samples with analysis for explosives, metals, volatiles and semivolatiles will be taken.

Aggregate 5  
Surface soil sampling in three surface disposal areas. Two of the three areas [6-007(f,g)] will have surface trash removed in small interim actions before sampling takes place. Both of these areas are a few hundred square feet in area. The third surface disposal area (40-010) is on the side of a canyon and mostly contains waste material from the ranches that predate the Manhattan Project. Twenty samples with analysis for explosives, metals, volatiles and semivolatiles will be taken.



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#### Aggregate 6

Drilling and surface soil sampling in septic systems, around tanks, in drain fields, and in outflow channels. Systems that are now inactive are 6-001(a,b), 22-010(a,b), and 22-016. The tanks in these systems are candidates for removal as VCAs. This sampling will show whether mixed waste is present in or around the inactive septic tanks. Active septic systems 40-001(b,c) will also be sampled. Two hundred fifty samples with analysis for explosives, metals, volatiles and semivolatiles will be taken.

#### Aggregate 8

Surface to 3-ft depth soil sampling of the former sites of 17 buildings in technical area (TA)-6 south of Two-Mile Mesa Road that contained explosives and a decommissioned septic tank that may have received explosives waste. The buildings and septic tank were removed in the early 1960s. One hundred twenty samples with analysis for explosives and metals will be taken.

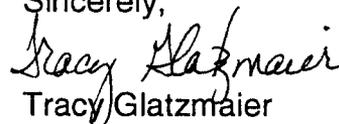
#### Aggregate 9

Surface to 3-ft depth soil sampling of former container storage areas Building 6-006 and 40-004. Containers and electrical equipment were stored on the parking lot near 6-6 in the 1980s (6-006). Containers of chloroethane and pump oil were stored at 40-004. Building 40-9 now covers this area. Drainages around this area will be sampled. Twenty samples with analysis for volatiles, semivolatiles and PCBs will be taken.

Sampling should start approximately May 2 and continue through July. This work plan has not yet been approved by your office and we are therefore proceeding at risk with this event. We will keep you and/or your designated sampler apprised of the progress should you desire to split samples on these holes with us.

Please feel free to call me with any questions regarding this sampling program.

Sincerely,



Tracy Glatzmaier  
Programmatic Project Leader

TG/sg

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